

Appl. No. 10/606,086
Amdt. dated August 21, 2007
Reply to Office action of March 21, 2007

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A system for managing transactions with multiple affiliates each having an affiliate computer and an affiliate database connected thereto, which system includes:

a central exchange including an exchange server and an exchange database connected thereto;

a distributed network connecting said exchange server to said affiliate computers; and said distributed network being adapted for real-time transactions in the exchange database

utilizing data housed in said affiliate databases across said distributed network;

Internet (world wide web) access and a web page including links to the affiliate computers for conducting such transactions electronically;

a web-based bulletin board accessible by the affiliates and adapted for posting information concerning goods and/or services available for purchase and/or requested to purchase through the central exchange;

said distributed network is adapted for enabling said affiliates to specify transaction conditions with respect to goods and/or services made available thereby for transactions with other said affiliates;

said distributed network is adapted for handling affiliate-to-affiliate transactions with respect to goods and/or services and for recording, reporting and storing data with respect to said transactions across said distributed network;

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a transaction accounting function adapted for automatic record insertion in said affiliates'
computers; and

a web inventory sharing function adapted for enabling said affiliates to upload their
respective inventories of goods and/or services to the exchange for transactions with
other affiliates across said distributed network pursuant to predetermined terms and
conditions via the distributed network.

2. (canceled)

3. (canceled)

4. (canceled)

5. (canceled)

6. (currently amended) The system according to claim 2 1, which includes:
a website plug-in adapted for enabling said affiliates to create their respective web sites for
conducting electronic commerce utilizing the central exchange and the distributed
network.

7. (canceled)

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8. (canceled)

9. (currently amended) A system for managing transactions with multiple affiliates each having an affiliate computer and an affiliate database connected thereto, which system includes:

a central exchange including an exchange server and an exchange database connected thereto;

a distributed network connecting said exchange server to said affiliate computers;

said distributed network being adapted for real-time transactions in the exchange database

utilizing data housed in said affiliate databases across said distributed network;

Internet (world wide web) access and a web page including links to the affiliate computers

for connecting such transactions electronically;

a web-based bulletin board accessible by the affiliates and adapted for posting information

concerning goods and/or services available for purchase and/or requests to purchase

through the central exchange;

the distributed network being adapted for enabling said affiliates to specify transaction

conditions with respect to goods and/or services made available thereby for

transactions by other said affiliates;

said distributed network being adapted for handling affiliate-to-affiliate transactions with

respect to goods and/or services and for recording, reporting and storing data with

respect to said transactions;

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a website plug-in adapted for enabling said affiliates to create their respective websites for connecting electronic commerce utilizing the central exchange and a distributed network;

a transaction accounting function adapted for automatic record insertion in said affiliates' computers; and

a web inventory sharing function adapted for enabling said affiliates to upload their respective inventories of goods and/or services to the exchange for real-time transactions with other affiliates across said distributed network pursuant to predetermined terms and conditions via the distributed network.

10. (original) The system according to claim 9, which includes:
multiple affiliate servers each associated with a respective affiliate computer; and
each said affiliate computer being connected to a respective affiliate server; and
each said affiliate server being connected to said exchange server via an affiliate application.

11. (original) The system according to claim 9, which includes:
said website plug-in being adapted for affiliate customization of a web page header and footer; and
a default web page body including information provided by said central exchange for said affiliate web pages.

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12. (original) The system according to claim 9, which includes:

a rules set maintained by said central exchange and adapted for control by said affiliates
whereby said affiliates can individually identify goods and/or services to be shown
on their respective websites and the websites of other affiliates and said affiliates can
specify conditions for selling such goods and/or services.

13. (original) The system according to claim 9, which includes:

a shipping manager feature adapted for providing transaction data to a carrier for shipping
goods to customers.

14. (currently amended) A method of managing transactions with multiple
affiliates each having an affiliate computer and an affiliate database connected thereto, which
method comprises the steps of:

providing a central exchange including an exchange server and an exchange database
connected thereto;
storing in said exchange database information corresponding to goods and/or services
available for sale and/or requested to purchase by one or more affiliates;
connecting said exchange server to the affiliate computers via a distributed network;
storing in said affiliate databases information corresponding to goods and/or services;
uploading to said central database said affiliate database information corresponding to
goods and/or services available for transactions via the distributed network;

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conducting real-time transactions involving said goods and/or services in said exchange
database across said distributed network via said distributed network;
providing Internet (world wide web) access to said exchange server;
providing a web page and linking same to said affiliate computers;
providing a web-based bulletin board and access thereto by said affiliates;
posting to said web-based bulletin board information concerning goods and/or services
available for purchase and/or requested to purchase through the central exchange;
preprogramming said central exchange with transaction conditions applicable to said
affiliates and conducting transactions across said distributed network via said
distributed network according to said preprogrammed conditions;
conducting affiliate-to-affiliate transactions with respect to said goods and/or services
across said distributed network via said distributed network; and
reporting data with respect to said affiliate-to-affiliate transactions across said distributed
network to said central exchange.

15. (original) The method according to claim 14, which includes the additional
steps of:

providing a special order system enabling affiliates to sell non-inventory goods and/or
services not in their possession; and
distributing via the distributed network purchase requests for said non-inventory goods
and/ or services.

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16. (original) The method according to claim 14, which includes the additional steps of:

enabling affiliate control of splitting of grouped goods and/or services according to predetermined procedures; and
offering such grouped goods and/or services according to such predetermined procedures.

17. (original) The method according to claim 14, which includes the additional steps of:

enabling affiliate control of credit card purchasing of goods and/or services from other affiliates; and
inputting to said central exchange credit card information from said affiliates for use in connection with affiliate-to-affiliate transactions.

18. (original) The method according to claim 14, which includes the additional steps of:

sending an affiliate purchase request from a selling affiliate to said exchange server via a web service;
said exchange server parsing and building request documents;
said exchange server sending said request back to said selling affiliate;
said originating affiliate sending goods and/or services information to said exchange server concerning said request;

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said exchange server sending selling information concerning said goods and/or services to
a buying affiliate;
said buying affiliate confirming purchase to said exchange service;
said exchange service sending a transaction confirmation to said buying affiliate; and
said buying affiliate sending a transaction confirmation to said exchange service.

19. (original) The method according to claim 14 wherein said goods and/or
services comprise tickets to entertainment and/or sports events.

20. (original) The method according to claim 14 wherein said tickets are
specified for purchase by a purchasing affiliate by event, venue, date and seating section.